

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A header assembly comprising:

an insulative housing comprising a plurality of walls defining an interior cavity, wherein
said insulating housing comprises at least one alignment rib extending on an exterior surface
thereof; and

*Please delete claims
amended 12/15/05*

a plurality of contacts within said cavity and extending through one of said walls to an
exterior of said housing for surface mounting to a circuit board, wherein said insulating housing
comprises at least one alignment rib extending on an exterior surface thereof, said contacts
formed against said alignment rib and abutting said alignment rib, wherein when said contacts
abut said alignment rib, said contacts are positioned between said alignment rib and a mounting
surface of the circuit board, and said contacts moved from a preloaded position to a loaded
position during an assembly process of said header assembly, said contacts engage said
alignment rib in the loaded position and said contacts are flexed by said alignment rib in the
loaded position to create an internal biasing force in said contacts to ensure coplanarity of said
contacts for surface mounting to the circuit board.

2. (original) A header assembly in accordance with claim 1 wherein said housing comprises longitudinal side walls and lateral side walls, said alignment rib extending parallel to one of said longitudinal and lateral side walls.

3. (original) A header assembly in accordance with claim 1 wherein said housing comprises longitudinal side walls and lateral side walls and a pair of alignment ribs, said alignment ribs extending parallel to a respective one of said longitudinal and lateral side walls.

4. (original) A header assembly in accordance with claim 1 wherein said housing comprises longitudinal side walls and lateral side walls, said alignment rib extending parallel to each of said longitudinal side walls.